

specific example described above, but only by the following claims and their equivalents.

What is claimed is:

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1. A method of operating a digital video disk device that has a non-volatile memory that stores a first configuration, the method comprising:

processing a signal from a digital video disk;

detecting a reconfiguration code in the signal if the reconfiguration code is

stored on the digital video disk;

operating the digital video disk device based on the first configuration if the reconfiguration code is not detected;

processing reconfiguration instructions from the signal if the reconfiguration code is detected;

storing a second configuration in the non-volatile memory based on the reconfiguration instructions; and

operating the digital video disk device based on the second configuration in response to storing the second configuration in the non-volatile memory.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein operating the digital video disk device based on the second configuration comprises using a different decoding algorithm from the first configuration.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein operating the digital video disk device based on the second configuration comprises using a different communication interface from the first configuration.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein operating the digital video disk device based on the second configuration comprises using a different user interface from the first configuration.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein operating the digital video disk device based on the second configuration comprises fixing a design defect in the first configuration.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein detecting the reconfiguration code comprises detecting a device identifier for the second configuration and wherein storing the second configuration in the non-volatile memory comprises storing the second configuration in the non-volatile memory if the device identifier includes the digital video disk device.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein detecting the reconfiguration code comprises detecting a version identifier for the second configuration and wherein storing the second configuration in the non-volatile memory comprises storing the second configuration in the non-volatile memory if the version identifier does not include the first configuration.

8. The method of claim 1 further comprising, in response to detecting the reconfiguration code, obtaining a user authorization for reconfiguration.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein obtaining the user authorization comprises obtaining a user password.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein storing the second configuration in the non-volatile memory comprises storing the second configuration in a flash read only memory.

11. A digital video disk device comprising:

a non-volatile memory configured to store a first configuration and to store a second configuration; and

a processing system configured to process a signal from a digital video disk, detect a reconfiguration code in the signal if the reconfiguration code is stored on the digital video disk, operate based on the first configuration if the reconfiguration code is not detected, process reconfiguration instructions from the signal if the reconfiguration code is detected, transfer the second configuration to the non-volatile memory based on the reconfiguration instructions, and operate based on the second configuration in response to the second configuration being stored in the non-volatile memory.

12. The digital video disk device of claim 11 wherein the second configuration comprises a different decoding algorithm than the first configuration.

13. The digital video disk device of claim 11 wherein the second configuration comprises a different communication interface than the first configuration.

14. The digital video disk device of claim 11 wherein the second configuration comprises a different user interface than the first configuration.

15. The digital video disk device of claim 11 wherein the second configuration comprises design defect fix for the first configuration.

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18. The digital video disk device of claim 11 wherein the processing system is configured to obtain a user authorization for reconfiguration in response to detecting the reconfiguration code.

20. The digital video disk device of claim 11 wherein the non-volatile memory comprises a flash read only memory.